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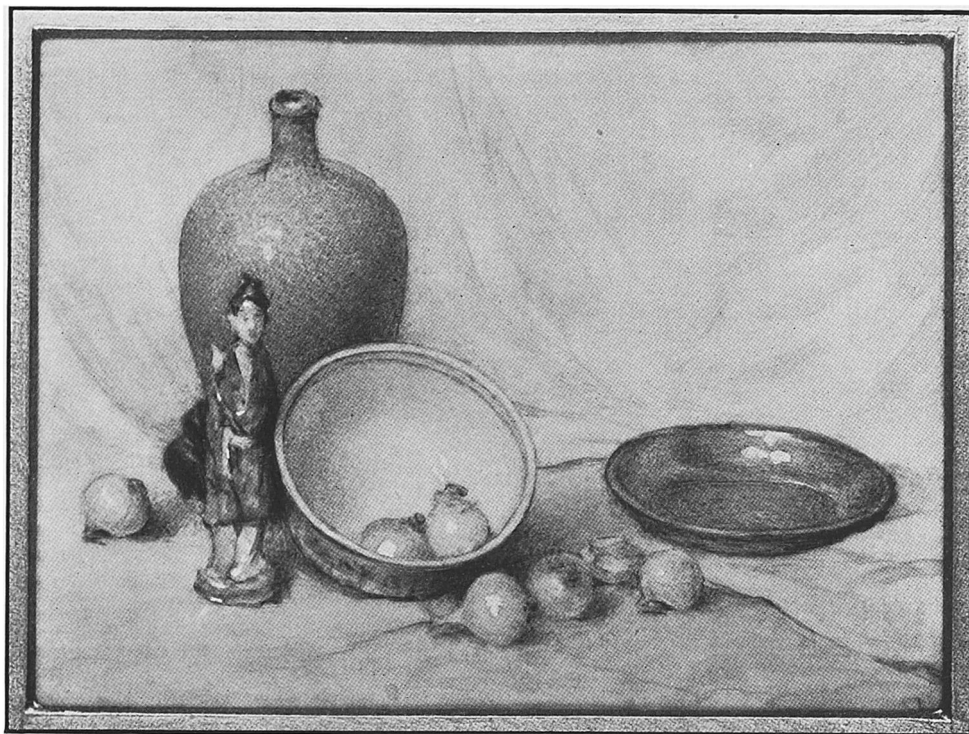
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STILL LIFE BY MISS HELEN WINSLOW DURKEE

A NOTABLE MINIATURE DISPLAY

TIME was, that miniatures commended themselves with all the force of moral suasion and the subtler power of fashion to all good burgesses of Europe and America. Fashion ordered that the lover or the spouse should have his beloved "took" and that she should wear his minim effigy in colors at her throat halcyons or eke her bulwarks. So, too, this artistic rite, this sacrifice of self to the benefit of the miniaturists reacted in a moral sense on the public, who could not but confess at sight of it the piety of constancy, the beauty of abiding love! Hence the appearance of Malbone, a miniature painter with genius, of Vanderlyn and Paradise, to mention only a few in America; hence, during the penumbral age of miniature that followed, the survival of men of less note. Now, however, notwithstanding it is no longer *bien portée* for a lady to bear a little picture of her lover or liege lord at her neck or her bosom, the noble art of miniature has not only survived but revived, and that so completely—we think nothing of two exhibitions of miniatures during one year in New York. Now since only a very small proportion of the annual make is shown, one can only guess at the extent of this revival. Is there any city of a hundred thousand souls in the land which cannot boast at least of one practitioner in this delicate brand of art?

Only the other day the American Society of Miniature Painters, one of the two New York organizations, held what it calls its autumn show in the new Babcock Galleries. This is its nineteenth year. Miss Alice Beckington is President and Mr. Wm. J. Baer, a former President, is Treasurer, while Mrs. Lucia Fairchild Fuller and Miss Laura Coombs

Hills, both of them miniature painters of note, are honorary Vices. Mr. Wm. J. Whittemore, portrait painter, is faithful still. The membership is restricted to thirty, so that a good many well-known miniaturists cannot be included. Some seventy portraits were shown. But the miniaturists do not always confine themselves to likenesses; sometimes they try fanciful subjects on the same highly wrought, delicately fashioned scale, or even indulge in still life or please themselves with little pictures of the nude, symbolical or otherwise.

Miss Helen W. Durkee showed a nude figure and a precious bit of still life, reproduced here, together with the likeness of an Indian woman. Miss Hills offered a fancy piece called "The Black Hat" and a likeness of Miss Hendrick, also among these illustrations. Miss Jean Arnot Reid sent a charming child "The Little Thinker," and the portrait of a lovely young woman which appeared at the National Academy in 1916—this, too, is reproduced. Whittemore and Baer had portraits only; Baer's "Jeanette" and Whittemore's "Mrs. Jesse Metcalf," a gracious appearance, are included in these prints. A very attractive profile half-length by Miss Mabel Welch is called "Study in Gray and Gold" and Mr. Sherman Potts, Secretary of the Society, is here represented by a quarter-face knee-piece belonging to Mrs. Lucia Fuller—a likeness of Mrs. Warner Taylor.

Among the portraits an excellent likeness is that of Jules Turcas of New York, the deceased painter, by Miss Lydia Longacre; he stands palette and brushes in hand facing round from his easel, regarding you with sober intentness—a notable little piece, very simple and direct. Not to be over-



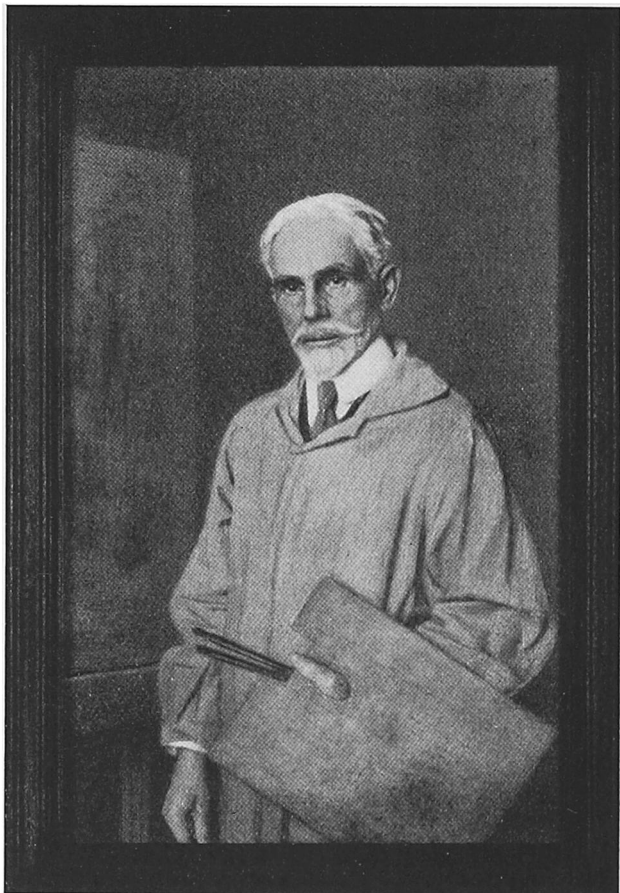
MRS. WARNER TAYLOR BY W. SHERMAN POTTS



MISS HENDRICK BY MISS LAURA COOMBS HILLS



THE MANDARIN COAT BY MISS SALLY CROSS



THE LATE JULES TURCAS BY MISS LYDIA LONGACRE



FREDRIKA KNITTING BY MISS ALICE BECKINGTON



PORTRAIT OF MISS C. ——— BY MISS JEAN ARNOT REID



MISS PUNNET BY MISS MARIA J. STREAN



PORTRAIT OF MRS. M. S. ——— BY MRS. ELSIE DODGE PATTEE



MARY FOOTE BY MISS MARGARETTE FOOTE HAWLEY



MRS. JESSE METCALF BY WM. J. WHITTEMORE



STUDY IN GRAY AND GOLD BY MISS MABEL R. WELCH



JEANETTE BY WM. T. BARR

looked is the oval miniature of "Mrs. T." by Miss Elsie Dodge Pattee, nor the similarly shaped pendent miniature of Miss Punnet by Miss Maria J. Streaan. Since it went out of fashion to wear miniatures on the person, the round and oval gold-backed cases have largely given way to square frames that may be hung on the wall and even to a bigger kind of miniature painted on parchment or on specially constructed plates of ivory which almost rival the old "Kit-kat" in size.

Others here produced are Miss Margaret F. Haw-

ley's likeness of little Miss Mary Foote, a likeness of Homer Saint-Gaudens by his wife Mrs. Carlotta Saint-Gaudens, "Frederika Knitting," an up-to-date oval miniature by Miss Alice Beckington and "The Mandarin Coat" by Miss Sally Cross. Among those it was not possible to reproduce, though worthy of it, one may mention work by the Misses Lucy M. Stanton, Sarah E. Cowan and Clara F. Howard ["Roofs of Florence" and three portraits] by Mrs. K. S. Myrick, Mrs. Annie S. Jackson and Miss Anna Lynch. Altogether a creditable little exhibition.



PORTRAIT BY CARLOTTA SAINT-GAUDENS

FIRST BORN

You stretch out your tiny feet in the firelight
 Like pink sea anemones feeling about.
 Your eyes are blue
 With the mystery of the deeps of the ocean,
 And your little hands clutch at the world
 As something new and strange.
 What are you trying to do,
 Queer little creature out of the deep sea,
 That life has washed up here
 On my lap?

Eleanor Hammond